

ACE Reading Club City of Greenbelt-CARES 25 Crescent Road Greenbelt, MD 20770 (T) 301-345-6660 (F) 301-441-8248 www.greenbeltmd.gov/ace

TIPS AND TOOLS FOR GETTING YOUR KIDS READING FOR FUN

- Read to and with your children for 30 minutes every day. Discuss what you have read, and speculate on what will come next in the story.
- Visit the library every week. Get your child a library card.
- Have books on tape in your home. If you cannot find recordings of your child's favorite books, you can make them recordings. Have the book handy so your child can look at the book and read along with the recording.
- Suggest reading as a free-time activity.
- Set a good example for your children by reading newspapers, magazines, and books. Try to do this before they go to bed so they can actually see you reading.
- Set up a home library. Make sure there are comfy chairs, good lighting, and books that are easily accessible. Include books for all ages.
- Ask your child to describe their day to you. Ask questions that look for details about events. Check out our "Book Discussion Questions" section of our website for examples of good questions to ask your kids to get them reading, analyzing, and discussing
- Notice what interests your child and build on that. For example, if they like sports, suggest sports-related books or stories; if they like video games, suggest a video game magazine. These choices will eventually lead to other reading selections as long as you continue to suggest reading material within that theme, or other interests as they present themselves.
- Include your child in the reading material selection. They are more likely to read it, if they had a hand in picking it out.
- In an informal setting, share your reactions to things you read, and encourage your children to do likewise.
- Set aside a regular time for reading in your family, independent of schoolwork, the 20 minutes before lights out, just after dinner, or whatever fits into your household schedule.
- Introduce the bookmark. Let your child know that it is normal and "okay" to not read a book in one sitting. Reading a few pages at a time is good progress.
- Explore your child's interests. If they finished a book on dinosaurs, follow it up with a trip to the Natural History Museum.
- Create incentives for reading. Allow your child to stay up an extra fifteen
 minutes to finish a chapter, go to a movie based on a book that your child
 has just finished, or allow them to give up a chore so they can read instead.